

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawing sheet includes changes to Figure 4. Figure 4 has been amended to correct reference numbers. Specifically, reference number "37" has been changed to "38" and reference number "38" has been changed to "39," which is consistent with the specification. This sheet, which includes Figure 4, replaces the original sheet including Figure 4.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed October 15, 2008, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on September 27, 2006.

An Information Disclosure Statement and Correction to Previously Submitted Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith. Consideration of the *Information Disclosure Statement* is respectfully requested. Also, the *Correction* addresses a minor typographical informality. In the *Correction*, the Applicant requests that the attached PTO 1449 Form be initialed and that the previous erroneous citation be lined through.

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 6, 9 and 10 are independent. Claims 1, 6, 9 and 10 have been amended to better recite the features of the present invention. For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Paragraph 2 of the Official Action asserts that "[t]his application does not contain an abstract" and that "[a]n abstract on a separate sheet is required" (page 2, Paper No. 20081006). The Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses the assertions in the Official Action. MPEP § 608.01(b) notes that "the abstract for a national stage application filed under 35 U.S.C. 371 may be found on the front page of the Patent Cooperation Treaty publication (i.e., pamphlet)." The present application is a National Stage application based on priority document PCT/JP2005/007113, which published as International Publication No. WO 2005/098745, and a copy of the cover page of WO '745 was provided at filing. Therefore, the present application contains an abstract and is believed to fully comply with the Rules. In any event, as a courtesy to the Examiner,

the Applicant has reproduced the abstract on a separate sheet. Reconsideration is requested.

Paragraph 3 of the Official Action objects to Figure 4 under 37 CFR § 1.84(p)(4) "because reference characters '39' ... and '37' ... have both been used to designate resonant circuit portion." In response, in Figure 4, reference number "37" has been changed to "38" and reference number "38" has been changed to "39," which is consistent with the specification, which discloses, for example, "a transportation vehicle 38" and "another resonant circuit portion 39 (hereinafter, referred to as a second resonant circuit portion in this embodiment)." Reconsideration is requested.

Paragraph 4 of the Official Action objects to claim 10 noting a "missing comma at end of sentence" (Id.). In response, claim 10 has been amended to add a comma (",") at the appropriate line. Reconsideration is requested.

Paragraph 6 of the Official Action rejects claims 1-12 as obvious based on the combination of U.S. Publication No. 2004/0217867 to Bridgelall and U.S. Publication No. 2004/0245519 to Van De Walle. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because the Official Action has not made a *prima facie* case of obviousness.

As stated in MPEP §§ 2142-2143.01, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some reason, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some reason to do so found either explicitly or implicitly in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. "The test for an implicit showing is what the combined teachings, knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art, and the nature of the problem to be solved as a whole would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the

art.” In re Kotzab, 217 F.3d 1365, 1370, 55 USPQ2d 1313, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 2000). See also In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988); In re Jones, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992).

The prior art, either alone or in combination, does not teach or suggest all the features of the independent claims. Independent claims 1 and 6 have been amended for clarity. Specifically, claims 1 and 6 have been amended to recite a product management system comprising a package for packing a product, where the product is provided with a semiconductor device. Also, claims 1 and 6 already recite that the package is provided with a resonance circuit. Claims 9 and 10 already recite that a semiconductor device is attached to a product, that the product is contained in a package, and that a resonance circuit is attached to the package. For the reasons provided below, Bridgelall and Van De Walle, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above-referenced features of the present invention.

The Official Action asserts that Bridgelall teaches “a package (20, Fig. 1) for packing a product provided with a semiconductor device (RFID tags) (22, Fig. 1)” (page 3, Paper No. 20081006). The Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses the assertions in the Official Action.

Figure 1 of Bridgelall (reproduced below, at left) is prior art to Bridgelall and appears to disclose that an RFID is provided with each container. That is, Figure 1 does not teach or suggest a product with a semiconductor device, and a package for the product provided with a resonance circuit.

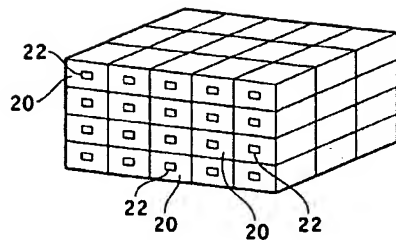


FIG. 1
(PRIOR ART)

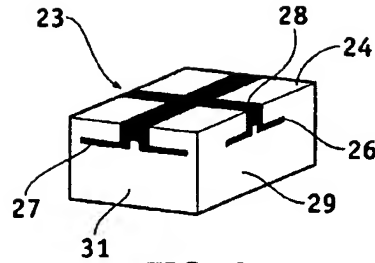


FIG. 2

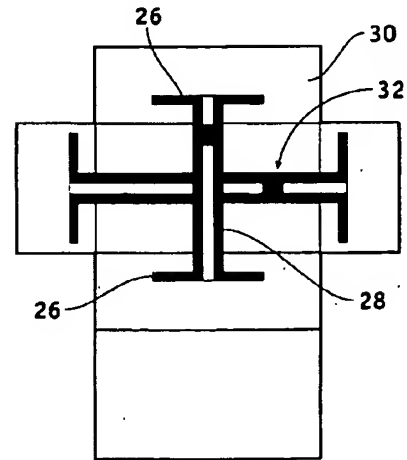


FIG. 3

Further, Figure 2 of Bridgelall (reproduced above, at center) appears to disclose a container 24, an RFID relay device 23 on the container 24, where the RFID relay device 23 includes antennas 26 and 27, transmission line 28 and RFID tags 32 (see Figure 3, reproduced above, at right). Although Bridgelall discloses, for example, bottles 42 of fluid (e.g. beverages) (¶ 28; see Figure 5, reproduced below), Bridgelall does not teach or suggest that the bottles 42 could or should be provided with semiconductor devices or RFIDs.

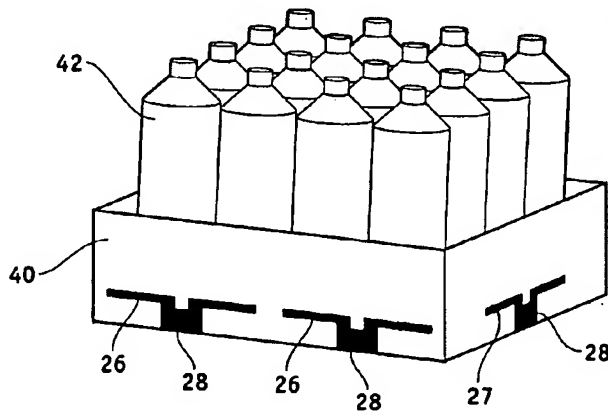


FIG. 5

Rather, it appears that Bridgelall teaches an RFID relay device 23 where a signal is received by an antenna and transmitted through antennas, for example, on two

different sidewalls of the container, and the signal may be transmitted to an RFID tag (§ 27). However, Bridgelall does not teach or suggest a package for packing a product, where the product is provided with a semiconductor device and where the package is provided with a resonance circuit; or that a semiconductor device is attached to a product, that the product is contained in a package, and that a resonance circuit is attached to the package.

Van De Walle does not cure the deficiencies in Bridgelall. Van De Walle is relied upon to allegedly teach a semiconductor device comprising a thin film integrated circuit comprising a thin film transistor and an antenna (page 3, Paper No. 20081006). However, Bridgelall and Van De Walle, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest that Bridgelall should be modified to include a package for packing a product, where the product is provided with a semiconductor device and where the package is provided with a resonance circuit; or that a semiconductor device is attached to a product, that the product is contained in a package, and that a resonance circuit is attached to the package.

Since Bridgelall and Van De Walle do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations, a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be maintained. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are in order and respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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